

INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

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NINE ARE FINED FOR BUYING WILD DUCKS

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Nine buyers of wild ducks were fined by Judge John P. Niolds in Federal court at Wilmington, Del., yesterday (June 16), the U. S. Biological Survey reports. This brings the total number of recent convictions against Eastern Shore buyers, bootleggers, and trappers of migratory waterfowl to 51. Other violators have been sentenced in Federal courts in Norfolk, Va., and Baltimore, Md.

Apprehended in an intensive nation-wide series of drives against the illicit traffic in wild ducks and geese, the Delaware buyers were arraigned, pleaded guilty, and fined. Convicted were: Martin L. Kenny, pharmacist; H. Tweed, bartender; Ralph W. Barrow, barber; and Leon Ryan, builder, all of Newark; Hartsell Walker, shirt manufacturer; Harrison M. Manning, pharmacist; J. C. Jones, retired; and J. Harlan Purse, broker, all of Seaford; and Harry Buckmaster, pharmacist, of Wilmington.

The prosecutions were conducted by U. S. District Attorney John J. Morris, Jr.

"We are going to continue to prosecute both buyers and sellers," says W. E. Crouch, chief of the U. S. Game Management Agents, "and whether the violators are important or unimportant citizens has no bearing on the case. We agree with Judge Coleman who in Federal court recently said: 'That some of you are substantial citizens of the community is no reason to expect special consideration -- it is all the more reprehensible that you violate the law.'"

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The Survey will continue its drive on the nation's trappers, bootleggers, and buyers of migratory waterfowl, Mr. Crouch declares. "We're sending our crack agents to the principal areas where bootleggers operate," he explains. "Many restaurants and night clubs sell wild ducks and geese to the 'right people' thinking that because they haven't been caught they aren't known."

Crouch states that apprehension of violators is a matter of getting around to them. "And we are doing that rapidly, now," he asserts. "The Government can't continue spending millions to restore waterfowl only to have this work nullified by those who want more than their legitimate share of ducks and geese at table."

The last 10 of the 63 cases brought to trial in the Eastern Shore drive will be heard next week (June 23, probably) in the Federal court at Baltimore.

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